

THE BIBLE AS AN EDUCATOR.

Some one has said that "the man who knows the Bible has a liberal education," and I presume that no intelligent person would contradict this assertion. Yet I doubt if very many young men think of the Bible being of value except in spiritual and religious matters. While it is devoted to the spiritual and moral training of man, and should be held sacred as the Word of God, at the same time as a scientific or literary work it is the most wonderful volume in existence. No education could be complete without some knowledge of this book. Again, I do not hesitate to assert that no education is complete without some spiritual development, some moral training.

Education, or the leading out and training of the powers, presupposes some knowledge of man in his complex nature. The Spartans are frequently referred to as a nation whose educational system had in view the development of the physical nature of man. Good soldiers were desired. Both sexes were compelled to practice the severest gymnastics. A hardy, muscular race was developed by the same processes that a stock raiser would develop a breed of horses endowed with qualities of strength or speed. Sparta had what she sought, but we know that she had little else. In the same way man may be made an intellectual animal—a creature far in advance of other animals, capable of performing the most wonderful feats when once he is properly trained. His ability to say witty things, to invent machinery and to put it to wonderful uses, indeed, his readiness with pen, brush, sword, plow and chisel, make him a mental prodigy. Yet the mental ability to